

Appln. No. 10/019,400
Amdt. dated October 14, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 25, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 2, paragraph under the heading "Disclosure of the Invention" (lines 11-25)
is corrected as read:

B The present inventors conducted a detailed study of the prior art, and as a result discovered the existence of certain problems. Specifically, humidity control or nitrogen substitution of the manufacturing environment requires greater investment in manufacturing equipment or an increased scale and number of manufacturing steps, thus leading to higher costs. Using a desiccant package ~~is used~~ poses the problem of increased product bulkiness, while users also run the risk of accidental ingestion of the desiccant. In addition to these economical and handling issues, conventional humidity-controlling shaped articles have tended to not always provide a sufficient humidity-controlling effect for drug-containing patches.